



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/498,515

02/04/2000

Howard G. Page

1285

8911

28004

7590

07/11/2008

SPRINT

6391 SPRINT PARKWAY

KSOPHT0101-Z2100

OVERLAND PARK, KS 66251-2100

EXAMINER

RETTA, YEHDEGA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3622

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/11/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/498,515	Applicant(s) PAGE ET AL.	
	Examiner Yehdega Retta	Art Unit 3622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,7,8,10-12,17,18,20 and 21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 17, 18, 20 and 21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is in response to amendment after BPAI Decision, filed March 31, 2008. Applicant amended claims 1, 7, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20 and 21. Claims 2-4, 6, 9, 13-16, 19, 22-27 have been canceled. Currently claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 17, 18, 20 and 21 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 17, 18, 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Swix et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,718,551, in view of Zigmond et al. (US 6,698,020) in view of "NDS: NDS' XTV(TM) time shifting technology empowers the viewer and the broadcaster", M2 Presswire, Sep 10, 1999, (hereinafter XTV(TM)) and further in view of Eyer et al. (US 6,588,015).

Regarding claims 1, 7, 8, 11, 12, 17, 18 and 21, Swix teaches selecting video advertising (e.g. pickup trucks) that has a subject matter relation to the selected video content (e.g. western movies) requested by the target viewer (see col. 9 line 33 to col. 10 line 34); transferring the selected video content to the a target viewer device over a first transport system and transferring the selected video advertising to the target viewer device over a second transport system, wherein the first transport system uses greater bandwidth for video transfer than the second transport system (see col. 12 line 21 to col. 13 line 23). Swix teaches delivering bit map or video advertisements and storing the advertisement in the viewer device and retrieving the

Art Unit: 3622

advertisement for insertion in an advertisement slots (see col. 11 line 34 to col. 12 line 60). Swix teaches insertion of the advertisements at predetermined slots in a continuous broadcasting program. Swix also teaches the insertion of advertisement before and after the presentation of a video content but failed to explicitly teach *interrupting the transferring of the **video content** in the video stream at the insertion point; retrieving the selected video advertising from the video storage; inserting the selected video advertising into the video stream; resuming the transferring of the selected video content in the video stream at the insertion point*, it is taught in Zigmond (see fig. 3-6, col. 6 lines 13-29, col. 7 lines 1-25 and col. 17 lines 10-32). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to store the advertisement locally and to interrupt the video programming at the appropriate time to play selected advertisement in Swix's media delivery system to increase the display of advertisements as a financial incentive to encourage the service provider to provide the service to the viewers. Swix does not teach disabling fast-forward capability when the selected video advertising is displayed. XTV(TM) teaches a set-top-box which provides advertisers with the ability to totally prevent views from skipping ads. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to disable the ability of fast-forward or skip forward in order to force the subscriber to view the commercials (see page 1). STV(TM) does not explicitly indicate how ads are skipped. Eyer teaches that it is possible to force subscriber to listen to certain commercials by disabling the ability to FAST FORWARD or SKIP FORWARD (see col. 7 line 50 to col. 8 line 12 and col. 16 lines 37-54). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to disable the fast-forward or skip forward function of the set-top box of

Swix, as taught in Eyer, to provide the advantage of preventing ad skipping function, as taught in STV(TM).

Regarding claim 5, Swix teaches selecting the video ad based on a viewer profile for the target viewer (see col. 7 line 31 to col. 8 line 2, col. 8 line 66 to col. 9 line 44)

Regarding claims 10 and 20, Swix does not explicitly teach re-displaying the selected video advertisements after rewinding the video content. It would have been obvious for Swix to re-display the same advertising since the advertisement selected is cached at the client set-top box and is inserted into the video stream, locally at a client side, and presented to the viewer.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 10-12, 17, 18, 20 and 21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Reynolds et al. (US 6,742,183) teaches inserting advertisement in pay-per-view program.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 3622

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yehdega Retta whose telephone number is (571) 272-6723. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eric Stamber can be reached on (571) 272-6724. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

YR

/Yehdega Retta/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3622

Application/Control Number: 09/498,515
Art Unit: 3622

Page 6